Institutes, Composite Rehabilitation Centres, Regional Rehabilitation Centres and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres. Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are also assisted under the scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities (Umbrella Scheme) and Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP). Soft loans are also provided by National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC) for self-employment ventures. In addition, various States are also providing facilities and concession like pension, unemployment allowance, transport subsidies etc.

Inclusion of Bengali Navshudra in SC Category

†1479. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 3090 given in Rajya Sabha on 18th December, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information asked from the State Government has been received; and

(b) if so, by when the Bengali Navshudra caste of Uttaranchal will be included in the list of Scheduled Caste?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttaranchal was requested for sending relevant information on 14.09.2001. They have been reminded again. Relevant details are awaited. Further action can be taken on getting details. No time frame can, however, be assigned, as it requires consultation with several agencies.

Grants for Old Age Homes to Jharkhand

1480. SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided grants-in-aid to the State Government of Jharkhand for setting up Old Age Homes for the welfare of senior citizens in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last two years, year-wise; and

(c) the number of Old Age Homes presently in operation and the number Of senior citizens in the State availing its benefits as on date and future expansion plan, if any?

†Original notice of the question was reeceived in Hindi.